

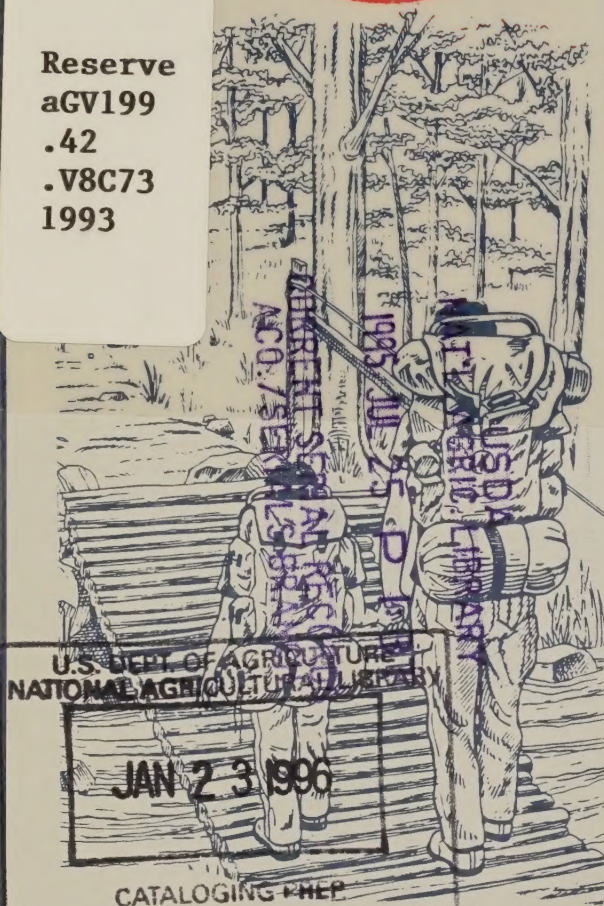
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CRABTREE FALLS TRAIL GUIDE

Reserve
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1993



Pedlar Ranger District
2424 Magnolia Avenue
Buena Vista, VA 24416
(703) 261-6105

George Washington
National Forest

Forest
Service



Southern
Region

Crabtree Falls Trails

Mileage Log

- 0.0 The Crabtree Falls Trail begins at the paved parking lot along State Route 56 and crosses a 110-foot wooden bridge over the Tye River. The bridge was constructed in one laminated, arched span and shipped to the site and lifted into place with cranes.
- 0.1 Stone piles on the left of the trail are thought by some to be Indian burial mounds, but descendants of families in the area say the stones were placed in piles when the land was cleared for farming.
- 0.15 Rock overlook at the bottom of the first falls.
- 0.2 First of a series of constructed overlooks. Hikers should not take shortcuts between trail segments.
- 0.3 Rock overlook located at the top of the first set of falls, followed by a minor overlook with wooden steps leading to the trail above, and another view of the falls at 0.35 miles.
- 0.7 A wooden deck overlooking the second set of falls, followed by a minor overlook that provides an excellent view of the third set of falls.
- 0.8 A rock overhang forms a cave on the right. You may pass through the cave and rejoin the trail above.
- 1.1 Trail passes a series of cascades.

Crabtree Meadows

Parking Lot

Toilets

826

1.4

A small overlook provides an excellent view from the bottom of the upper falls.

1.7

Side trail to the left leads to an overlook, a rock wall on the top of the upper falls. The overlook provides a lovely view of the Tye River Valley.

1.75

The side trail to the left was the old trail to Crabtree Meadows.

1.9

Side trail turns left and leads down to the creek. This path is the upper end of the old trail to Crabtree Meadows.

2.5

Trail crosses small creek.

2.9

Crabtree Falls Trail ends at Crabtree Meadows parking lot. An open area with crab apples and apple trees is across the road. In the 1930's, several families lived in this area, which once included a saw mill. No

Overlook

Overlook

Overlook

Overlook

Parking Lot

Toilets

TYE

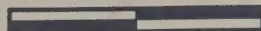
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SOUTH
FORK

56

RIVER

Scale



0 1/8 1/4 mile



Non-USFS Land



Crabtree Creek



USFS Trail



State Road

Compiled by:
GWNF-GIS,
Harrisonburg, VA
on June 17, 1993.



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SOUTH

FORK

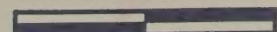
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Creek

Meadow

RIVER

Scale



0 1/8 1/4 mile



Non-USFS Land



Crabtree Creek



USFS Trail



State Road

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Bicycles, any motorized vehicles, saddle, pack, and draft animals are not permitted on the Crabtree Falls Trail.

Hikers should leave the area in a natural condition. The **"pack-it-in, pack-it-out"** system is used to minimize clean-up costs.

To protect natural vegetation and prevent erosion, taking shortcuts between segments of the trail is prohibited.

Please do not bring alcoholic beverages.

Pack-it-in, Pack-it-out

Repackage food to reduce containers.

Go one step further, and carry out trash that less thoughtful people have left behind.

Travel to avoid impact. Walk softly and quietly. Don't kick up dirt and stones or trample vegetation. Allow the next person to enjoy a natural scene.

Keep the Water Supply Clean

Do not wash in springs or streams. Wash yourself and dishes away from and below all sources of drinking water. Dispose of waste water away from springs, streams or lakes. Boil or treat water before drinking.





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WARNING

Stay on the trail! Do not climb the rocks around the observation points or wade in the stream. **The terrain is extremely dangerous.**

The cliffs and paths near the stream are steep and the rocks are deceptively slippery. In the past few years a number of hikers have been swept over the falls to their death or injured in falls after venturing too close to the waterfalls.

"Leave No Trace Land Ethics"

Limit Size of Group

Plan to travel and camp with fewer than 8 to 10 people. Smaller groups are easier to plan for and to keep together.

Preserve Nature's Cover

Help preserve natural beauty by not cutting tree limbs. Pick a site that needs no clearing of vegetation. Before leaving, naturalize the area by replacing rocks and scattering leaves and twigs around the site.

Protect Streams

Choose an area at least 200 feet or more from the water's edge. Frequent activities close to the stream compacts the soil, reduces its absorption ability and speeds up erosion.



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